

Proclamation

By

Governor Martin O'Malley
Designating May 2014
Tick-borne Disease Awareness Month
In Maryland

WHEREAS, Lyme disease, which is transmitted by the bite of an infected tick, is the most commonly reported tick-borne disease in Maryland with more than 1,650 cases reported in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Ticks transmit not only Lyme disease, but also other serious diseases including Rocky Mountain spotted fever; babesiosis, ehrlichiosis, anaplasmosis, and tularemia; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease, and other diseases transmitted by ticks, are best prevented by wearing protective clothing, applying appropriate repellents, checking thoroughly for ticks and showering after being in a tick habitat, avoiding tick-infested areas, keeping ticks off of pets, and managing the environment to minimize tick abundance; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene joins with local health departments, health care providers, veterinarians, community organizations and advocacy groups to raise awareness about Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses, and to encourage Maryland residents to protect themselves and their children against these diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MAY 2014 as "Tick-borne Disease Awareness Month" in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.